



Farnborough Urban District Council.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health
and Sanitary Inspector**

FOR

1923.

E. CROFT WATTS, M.D., etc, D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Medical Officer's Annual Report for 1923.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Farnborough Urban
District Council.*

TOWN HALL,
FARNBOROUGH.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. HARDINGHAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present you with my report on the health of your district during 1923.

As directed by the Ministry of Health in their Circular No. 451, this will be an Ordinary Report—*i.e.*, an “Annual Report of a more simple character and containing only certain minimum requirements.”

I am,
Your obedient Servant,
E. CROFT WATTS,
Medical Officer of Health.

(1) GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area	2,331 acres
Population (1923), estimated by Registrar	
General for—	
(a) Birth Rate	13,030
(b) Death Rate	10,441
Number of inhabited houses (1921)	1,827
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921)	2,099
Rateable Value—	
Civil	£55,859
Government	£21,519
Sum represented by a Penny Rate—	
Exclusive of Government Property	£232
Inclusive of Government Property	£322

(2) EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Births—	<i>Total.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
Legitimate	271	144	127
Illegitimate	4	2	2
Birth Rate—21·1.			
Deaths, Civilian only	81	37	44
Death Rate—7·7.			

Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of, Childbirth—

From sepsis	Nil
From other causes	2
Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births—	
Legitimate	44.2
Illegitimate	0.0
Total	43.6
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0.0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0.0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	2

(3) NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.	Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.		Analysis of Cases.											
				Under 1 Year.	1 to 2,	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and over.
		Civil	Military.												
Small Pox	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	6	4	1	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	1	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Malaria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Chicken Pox	7	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	—	—	—

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods.	New Cases—				Deaths—			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5	—	1	3	—	—	1	—	—
10	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	2	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	7	7	3	1	3	2	—	—

The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths was 4 : 13.

Two of the four cases not notified were certified as Spinal Caries.

The other two cases were Tubercular Meningitis, having died in hospitals away, notifications not being transferred to me.

All Doctors practising in the district have been written to on the subject.

No cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified during the year.

(4) CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

No causes of sickness and invalidity have been specially noteworthy during the year.

(5) SUMMARY (for reference) OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

(a) *General*.—South Farnborough Nursing Association, one District Nurse ; North Farnborough Nursing Association, one District Nurse.

Wholly provided by the Associations in question.

(b) *For Infectious Disease*.—Nil.

Midwives.

The question of Midwives is dealt with by the County Council.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

These are dealt with by the County Council.

Hospitals provided or subsidized by the Local Authority or by the County Council.

(a) *Tuberculosis*.—Nil.

(b) *Maternity*.—Nil.

(c) *Children*.—Nil.

(d) *Fever*.—The Isolation Hospitals at Aldershot and Farnham are available for patients from this district at prescribed fees.

(e) *Small Pox*.—A hospital at Aldershot, containing 8 beds and maintained by the County Council, is available for patients from this district.

(f) *Other*.—Farnborough and Cove War Memorial Hospital; within the district; not supported by the Council. The Hospital is situated in the centre of the district. There are 10 beds and a private ward, operating theatre, etc.

There is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children in the district.

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) *For Infectious Cases*.—The Council's own ambulance.

(b) *For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases*.—Red Cross ambulance at Aldershot; St. John's hand ambulance.

The Royal Aircraft Establishment have their own ambulance.

(6) LABORATORY WORK.

No laboratory work is carried out within the District; arrangements are made with Aldershot and the County Council.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin and Anti-influenza Vaccine are supplied to Medical Practitioners on request

(7) SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

List of Adoptive Acts, Bye-laws, and Local Regulations relating to the Public Health, in force in the District, with Date of Adoption.

	<i>Date of Adoption.</i>
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, Parts 2, 3 and 4	15th June, 1897
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907, Parts 2 (with the exception of Clause 26), 3, 4, 6, 9 and 10 (Sec. 95) ..	7th Dec., 1909
Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890	28th July, 1902
<i>Bye-laws.</i>	
Nuisances	28th Sept., 1899
Common Lodging Houses	28th Sept., 1899
Slaughter-houses	29th Mar., 1900
Cleansing of Footways and Pavements, the Removal of House Refuse, and the Cleansing of Earth Closets, Privies, Ashpits and Cesspools	11th July, 1904
Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures used for Human Habitation	3rd July, 1906
New Streets and Buildings	23rd May, 1907
<i>Regulations.</i>	
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	12th June, 1899

Sanitary Inspector's Report for Year ending 31st December, 1923.

Sanitary Inspections of the District.

The following table, prepared by the Sanitary Inspector, is here included in accordance with Art. 19 of "The Sanitary Officers' Order, 1922."

(a) Number and Nature of Inspections for 1923.

Dwelling -houses inspected under Sec. 17 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act.	116
Inspection of houses and premises <i>re</i> nuisances and complaints	334
Re-inspections and re-visits to work in progress ..	1,146
Inspections of Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops ..	52
Inspections of Factories and Workshops, including Bakehouses	41
Inspection of Slaughterhouses	141
Inspection of Butchers and other Food Shops ..	488
Inspection of Schools	5
Inquiries and re-visits <i>re</i> Infectious Disease ..	35
Disinfections—Houses	35
Disinfections—Bedding	31
House drains tested	19
Samples of Water taken for Analysis	4
Samples of Milk taken for Bacteriological Examination	12
Total	2,459

Statutory Notices served—

Under the Public Health Act, 1875, Sec. 94 ..	20
Under the Public Health Act, 1875, Sec. 36, to provide water closets, dust bins, etc. ..	22
Under the P.H.A.A. Act, 1890, Sec. 22, to provide sanitary conveniences for workpeople ..	1
Under P.H.A.A. Act, 1907, Sec. 57, to prohibit contacts with infectious disease from attending school	1
Under the P.H.A.A. Act, 1907, Sec. 25, requiring backyards to be paved and drained	6
Under the Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890, Sec. 5, to cleanse infected rooms ..	5
Under Housing (Town Planning) etc., Act, 1919, Sec. 28, to make houses reasonably fit for habitation	51

Under the Bye-laws relating to Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc., used for human habitation	1
Under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, 1885, Article 8 (i), Article 12 (i)	2
Under the Bye-laws <i>re</i> Nuisances	1
<hr/>	
Total	110
 Preliminary Notices served	 301

Result of the Service of Notices.

Statutory Notices complied with	94
Preliminary Notices complied with	164

Inspection of Places where Food is prepared.

The various premises where food is prepared or exposed for sale have been kept under constant supervision, the number of visits being set out in the list of inspections.

Much time and attention has been devoted to this important branch of the multifarious duties devolving upon a Sanitary Inspector. Regular visits have been made to all slaughterhouses during, or immediately after, the slaughter of animals, and the carcasses and offals rigidly inspected in accordance with the instructions set out in the Ministry of Health's Memo. 62, Foods.

My object throughout the year has been to examine all home killed meat before it was exposed for sale in the shops, whether killed within or without the district.

There is a considerable quantity of home killed meat brought into this district from adjoining areas; this meat consists principally of pork, some of which is killed in licensed slaughterhouses, but a considerable quantity is killed in Rural areas and is brought here without previous inspection. Particular attention has been given to this meat, regular visits, almost daily, being made to the various butchers' shops concerned. A reference to the appended list will show the importance of these inspections and the ultimate value accruing to the public.

The occupiers of slaughterhouses have continued, as far as practicable, to kill on recognized days, as arranged last year, and when killing is carried out at any other time, notification is made to me, which, of course, facilitates inspection.

I hear, however, from time to time, complaints, by traders who are subjected to rigid inspection, in reference to the sale of pork by residents of outlying Rural Districts—*i.e.*, cottagers

who kill and sell out carcasses of pork. Such meat, unfortunately, finds a ready sale, but I think a note of warning should be given, as disease of either a local or general character is so often found even in carcasses which, to the untrained eye, appear to be quite satisfactory, and the public would be well advised to purchase meat only from recognized salesmen whose supplies are systematically inspected.

I express this opinion in the light of experience and with only one object in view—*i.e.*, to protect the public of this district against the consumption of meat which may possibly give rise to disease; for instance, tubercular disease is frequently found in the mesenteric lymphatic glands of a pig, and not infrequently in the liver. The mesentery is sold as “Crow” together with the liver, and forms a much appreciated dish by many people. It is almost certain that the disease germs are not destroyed by the process of cooking, hence the possibility of the results previously referred to.

One seizure was made during the year, being half a pig's head exposed for sale, the sub-maxillary lymphatic gland being affected with tuberculosis; this pork had been killed outside the district, and the trader had not notified me of its arrival—in fact, this was the only trader in my district who had refrained from so doing. The matter was duly reported to the Sanitary Committee, and the trader interviewed, resulting in him promising to notify all future consignments, and this has been done. In the circumstances proceedings were not taken.

Warning was given to one person in this district who killed a pig on unlicensed premises and sold the meat, and the practice was discontinued.

The following foodstuffs were surrendered:—

9 Pigs' heads	..	..	Tuberculosis.
6 Beef mesenteries	..	..	Tuberculosis.
5 Pigs' mesenteries	..	..	Tuberculosis.
3 Pigs' plucks	..	..	Tuberculosis.
1 Pig's spleen	..	..	Tuberculosis.
6 Beef lungs	..	..	Tuberculosis.
3 Carcasses of pork	..	..	Tuberculosis.
2 Beef mesenteries	..	..	Unsound.
1 Beef liver	..	..	Unsound
1 Beef spleen	..	..	Unsound
701 lb. Beef	..	..	Unsound
1 Beef lung	..	..	Unsound
3½ tins Salmon	..	..	Unsound
6 lb. Lunch tongue	..	..	Unsound

1 tin Corned beef	..	Unsound
3 Beef livers	..	Abscesses.
4 Beef livers	..	Distomum hepaticum
2 Sheep's livers	..	Distomum hepaticum
1 Sheep liver	..	Cysticercus tenuicollis
1 Pig's liver	..	Cirrhosis
1 Beef tongue	..	Actinomycosis
6 lb. Pork	..	Urticaria (Diamonds)
5 Pigs' mesenteries	..	Emaciated

The total weight of the above was 1,050 lb.

Number and Condition of Slaughter-houses, Registered or Licensed.

There are four licensed slaughter-houses within the district, all being modern brick buildings and in good order.

Arrangements for Disinfection and Disinfestation, and the Extent of their Use.

The Sanitary Authority undertake the disinfection of premises after infectious disease. The rooms are sprayed and fumigated with formaldehyde; bedding and clothing is removed to the Steam Disinfector Station at the Sewage Works. A gratuitous supply of disinfectants is also made in such cases.

Disinfection was carried out at 35 houses, and 31 lots of bedding and clothing, consisting of 80 beds and 314 other articles, were disinfected by steam.

The disinfestation of premises is dealt with by the service of notices on the owners or occupiers. The Local Authority assist by spraying with a vermicide after rooms are prepared by the removal of skirting boards, architraves, etc., and the stripping of wall papers.

Action under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders.

There are at present on the Register three Cowkeepers and Dairymen, seven Dairymen and Purveyors, eight Purveyors resident outside the district, two Wholesalers, and one Milkshop.

Fifty-two visits have been made to the Registered Cowsheds and Dairies, which have been maintained in a good condition and in conformity with your Regulations.

Two Statutory notices were served upon an unregistered Cowkeeper and complied with.

Three Dairymen were licensed to deal in "Certified" milk, the milk in each case being obtained from a licensed producer.

Twelve samples of milk were taken from Dairy-men retailing milk and submitted for bacteriological examination, including animal inoculation for Tubercle Bacilli, with the following results :—

No.	Bacteria per 1 c.c.	Bacillus Coli—			Tubercle Bacilli.
		In 1/10 c.c.	In 1/100 c.c.	In 1/1,000 c.c.	
1	3,830	Positive	Positive	Negative	Negative
2	91,000	Positive	Positive	Positive	Negative
3	450,000	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive
4	20,500	Positive	Negative	Negative	Negative
5	29,750	Positive	Negative	Negative	Negative
6	21,200	Positive	Negative	Negative	Negative
7	8,093	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative
8	6,900	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative
9	85,000	Positive	Positive	Positive	Negative
10	26,866	Positive	Positive	Negative	Negative
11	350,000	—	Positive	Negative	Negative
12	35,000	—	Negative	Negative	Negative

Sample No. 3, containing Tubercle Bacilli, was from a farm outside the district. The Dairyman was at once notified and also the Sanitary Authority where the farm was situate.

The farmer immediately had the cows examined by a Veterinary Surgeon, and the suspected cows were isolated. I was later informed that all the herd was tuberculin tested, resulting in a number of the cows being rejected. A further sample, was then taken, with satisfactory results both as regards Tubercle Bacilli and the reduction of bacteria.

In all cases where an excess of bacteria were present or the B. Coli was found in 1/100th c.c., the Dairyman was visited and advised as to the necessary action to procure a clean supply. The Sanitary Inspector of the district from which the milk came was also informed of the result.

In each case further samples have shown considerable improvement.

I may say that the Dairy-men, without exception, have gladly co-operated with me and shown a keen desire to procure a clean and wholesome milk.

(8) PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

(With note of special Diplomas or Certificates of Qualification.)

Medical Officer of Health (Part Time).—E. Croft Watts, M.D., C.M., F.R.C.S. (Edin.), D.P.H. (Lond.).

Sanitary Inspector.—P. W. Bellamy. Holds the Certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Nuisances, also of Meat and other Foods, and the Certificate of the Worshipful Company of Plumbers.

Other Public Office held : Inspector of Hackney Carriages.

(9) HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year—

(a) Total	24
(b) With State assistance under the Housings Acts, 1919 to 1923—	
(i) By the Local Authority	Nil
(ii) By other bodies or persons	24

(1) Unfit Dwelling Houses.

Inspection—

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts	303
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were in- spected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	116
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habita- tion	92

(2) Remedy of Defects without service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	57
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(3) Action under Statutory Powers.

A. Proceedings under Sec. 28 of the Housing
(Town Planning), etc., Act, 1919.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served re- quiring repairs	51
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—	
(a) By owners	28
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	1
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declara- tions by owners of intention to close	Nil

B. Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ..	40
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—	
(a) By owners	40
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
C. Proceedings under Secs. 17 and 18 of the Housing (Town Planning), etc., Act, 1909.	
(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-house having been rendered fit	1
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil

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